

# COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS NEWS JOURNAL



THANKSGIVING

NOVEMBER 2007



## Response to Sheriff's Brochure

*A brochure recently distributed in Cottonwood Heights by the Sheriff and representatives of the Sheriff's deputies union claims we will suffer "Less for More," suggesting that the city will receive fewer services for more money should we self-provide law enforcement services. The following is the city leaders' response to the points of that brochure.*

### "More for Less!"

HEY!! Some of what the "Less for More?" brochure suggests is accurate:

- The Sheriff's office has a history of dedicated service.
- Cottonwood Heights has enjoyed superior policing since its incorporation.
- Pooling of resources can create economies of scale.
- Salt Lake County's 400 officers are among the most qualified in the western U.S.
- The Sheriff's office has numerous specialized units for atypical situations.

HOWEVER!! There are also some inaccuracies and omissions that require clarification:

- Draper and Taylorsville, two of the most recent cities to move to self-providing, did not increase taxes to pay for their police departments. (See sidebars)
- The primary reason Cottonwood Heights is enjoying superior police service is because the city PAYS for additional deputies. The local control provisions of our contract has helped to create an atmosphere where our officers have connected to our citizens and businesses. There is great loyalty between our deputies and their city and vice versa.
- Cottonwood Heights and most of the other cities in the county negotiated with the Sheriff's office and the county for two years to create a Unified Police Department (UPD)

that would have implemented a coordinated police force in those specialized areas where pooled services are required. It would also have created a model whereby cities would be able to retain local control in the operation of their day-to-day police service and still have access to the pooled services in which the Sheriff has specialized personnel. After two years of negotiation and as legislative action authorizing a UPD was finalizing, the Sheriff informed the Mayors and the Legislature that he would not participate in a UPD.

- Cottonwood Heights is the only city in the last seven years to sign a contract with the county Sheriff's office.
- Smaller cities in the county have and are operating efficiently in all areas of law enforcement. In fact, most of the cities in the county have left the Sheriff's office and created city police services (Cottonwood Heights, Bluffdale, Herriman, Riverton, and Holladay are the remaining cities).
- Well-trained officers are capable of multi-tasking, and know how to call in specialists when required for atypical situations
- Cottonwood Heights is capable and willing to pay its officers a competitive salary (In fact, the feasibility study assumed all hired officers will be at the top of their pay range plus 10%).
- Cottonwood Heights has a brief, but well established history of efficient and effective use of tax dollars. To date the city has reduced fire fighting costs by \$1 million through participation in the United Fire Authority while maintaining the highest staffing in the UFA at BOTH our stations. We have increased police patrols, reduced the cost of animal control, and improved code enforcement. The City Council has not and will not waste your money.
- Feasibility studies to this date

indicate that self-providing of police services in Cottonwood Heights will enable the city to provide additional officers for the contract price now being paid to the county.

- Sheriff Winder, since taking office, has moved steadily toward a more centralized law enforcement model that limits elected city leader involvement. Cottonwood Heights incorporated because it wanted to better control services and deployment of tax dollars. No service is more important than public safety.
- Cottonwood Heights is willing to consider a contract with the county for specialized, pooled services such as: SWAT, K-9, Crime Investigation, etc.

Currently, the contract with the County for law enforcement services has been breached openly and willfully. Our police chief who contributed significantly to the start up of our community was moved out of our city contrary to contract provisions. Officers who are supposed to be exclusive to our city have been routinely dispatched to other areas of the county. These unilateral breaches are of concern to the elected officials who believe professional integrity would dictate that contract changes be mutually negotiated and agreed upon by the parties.

### *The Sheriff's Office flyer stated:*

*"Cities that have created their own police departments have seen a property tax increase. For example, Draper City citizens have experienced a 70% increase in property taxes."*

**Draper City Manager, Layne Long said,** "The information [the sheriff] said about Draper is 100% false. Our 70% tax increase had nothing to do with the police department. We actually believe our costs are cheaper than when we were with the county, we have more officers on the streets, and have a much better level of police service."

**Mayor Russ Wall, Taylorsville, said:** "The city imposed a tax increase in 2006. The increase was needed to pay for bonding approved by the city council in the same budget year. The bonds were issued to implement badly needed infrastructure repairs and improvements.... The tax increase was not ...because of our police department costs."

### CITY INFORMATION: *City Council Members*

#### *MAYOR*

Kelvyn H. Cullimore, Jr.

*kcullimore@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov*

**DIST# 1** - Gordon M. Thomas

*gthomas@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov*

**DIST# 2** - J. Scott Bracken

*sbracken@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov*

**DIST# 3** - Don J. Antczak

*dantczak@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov*

**DIST# 4** - Bruce T. Jones

*bjones@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov*

#### *CITY MANAGER –*

Liane Stillman

*lstillman@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov*

### CITY OFFICES:

1265 E. Fort Union Blvd. #250,  
Cottonwood Heights, UT 84047

**phone (801) 545-4154**

**fax (801) 545-4150**

### CALL DIRECT:

City Manager	545-4160
Deputy City Manager	545-4165
City Planning	545-4172
Recorder	545-4162
Treasurer	545-4175
Finance Director	545-4177
Code Enforcement	545-4169
Customer Service	545-4154
Public Relations	545-4163

To hear the agenda for the next city council meeting call: 545-4155

For the planning commission agenda call 545-4156

For details about the agendas, check our web site:  
[www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov](http://www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov)

### NUMBERS TO KNOW:

<b>Emergency:</b>	911
<b>Sheriff Dispatch:</b>	743-7000
<b>Fire Authority:</b>	743-7200
<b>Animal Control:</b>	269-7499
<b>Justice Court:</b>	273-9731

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## NAMES IN THE NEWS

Each month there are heroes and excellence achievers among us. Once again this month we recognize those of our Cottonwood Heights' friends and neighbors who have been noticed for significant accomplishment or for performance "above and beyond" what might be expected. This month's list of "Claim to Fame" residents includes:

**Jennifer Van Haaften**— A U. S. History and Language Arts teacher at Butler Middle School has been named the 2007 - 08 Teacher of the Year by Jordan School District. Ms. Haaften was chosen by the district from 3700 teachers who were eligible for the award. Cottonwood Heights is fortunate to have this caliber of teacher instructing our children. Congratulation to Ms. Haaften for this honor and thanks for your exemplary performance.

**Brighton Dance Company** — This group of young ladies from Brighton High School recently took first place in the Dance Ensemble Oxford Division at the Southern Utah University High School

Shakespeare Competition held in Cedar City. They plan to continue entering competitions that will open up new opportunities but need your help to finance some of their efforts. Please attend their fund raising sale to be held on Saturday, Nov. 10 in the front foyer at Brighton High School. Congratulations to the team for their recent accomplishment and good luck in their fund raising efforts.

**Renita Pullman** — Renita is the Division Secretary for the Cottonwood Heights Division of the Salt Lake County Sheriff's office. She was recently recognized with a special award for her transcription work. This case was a significant accomplishment in drug enforcement and Renita's work required many

hours of extra effort in order to get everything in writing as the case was built. Renita received a Special Incentive Award from the Sheriff for her outstanding work.

**Sgt. Paul Brenneman** — In addition to serving as the acting Division Commander (Police Chief for Cottonwood Heights) during the past couple of months, Sgt. Brenneman has been saving lives on the west side of the valley. While driving to work recently he was stopped at a traffic signal when a young woman ran across the road behind him and was hit by an oncoming car. The impact was such that the young lady was thrown nearly 200 feet, beyond Sgt Brenneman's car. He immediately

called for emergency medical help and went to assist her and protect her from other traffic. When he got to her she was not breathing. He administered first aid until she was breathing on her own and made sure no one moved her while emergency medical help was on the way. In addition to protecting the victim, he assisted in directing traffic and keeping onlookers away while she was secured to a stretcher and placed in the ambulance. The paramedics credited Sgt. Brenneman's quick response and wise action in saving the young lady's life.

## DISTRICT #3 "TOWN MEETING" SCHEDULED

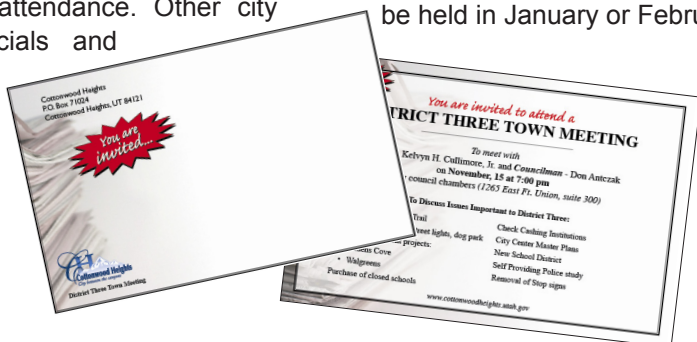
In an effort to keep residents updated on city happenings, such as the possibility of a new school district, public works projects, the question of whether to self-provide police services, and plans for a City Center, etc., along with providing a forum for citizens to express their concerns, are goals of the city council. To help accomplish this, the council is holding a series of "Town Meetings."

The third "Town Meeting" is set for Thursday, November 15, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. in the city council chambers, 1265 East Fort Union Blvd., Suite 250. Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore, Jr. and Councilmember Don Antczak will make brief remarks about the "State of the City," after which a discussion will be held about issues of concern to those in attendance. Other city officials and

employees will also participate as appropriate.

Council District #3 is the northernmost area of the city. Its western boundary is Highland Drive, from I-215 south and then east on Bengal Blvd. At 2700 East it jogs north to Cavalier Dr., then east to Promenade Dr. and to 2700 East where it once again jogs north to Fort Union Blvd. It then runs along Fort Union to the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon where it turns north once again and follows Wasatch Blvd and 6200 south to the I-215 interchange. A map is available on the city website, [www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov](http://www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov), for those not certain of which district they live in. Residents of this area are encouraged to participate in this "Town Meeting."

A similar meeting for District #4 will be held in January or February.



## SUB-FOR-SANTA 2007

It takes time to organize an effective Sub-for-Santa and Sherry McConkey, Cottonwood Heights Planning Coordinator, is devoting all of her available time in an attempt to make the 2007 edition bigger and better than the past two years.

You can help by sending contributions of dollars or gifts early this year. Those preferring to purchase gifts and personally deliver them to the city can contact Sherry for a list of specific needs. Sherry can be reached at 545-4172 or [smcconkey@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov](mailto:smcconkey@cottonwoodheights.utah.gov).

In 2006, nine children and seven adults were helped with Christmas; and an additional truck load of gifts was delivered to the Road Home Shelter in Midvale. This was an increase over 2005 when six children were assisted.

Those who know of possible recipients should also contact Sherry as quickly as possible with the names and personal information required for Santa to find the appropriate gifts for those with special needs. Recommendations for possible recipients must be received in the city offices by November 21, 2007.







Emergency Preparedness Tip for November

Choose an emergency contact person living outside your area. Many times long distance phones are operational more rapidly than local service. It may be easier to call long distance after a disaster. Take a minute right now to call or email an out of town relative or friend to ask that they be your family’s contact during an emergency. Exchange contact information and add important phone numbers to your list that family members should know.

Planning Ahead for a Possible Emergency

Here’s a resolution you can make for the New Year and cross it off the list three weeks later!!

“Do something positive about preparing my family for an emergency”

Complete this resolution by attending a one evening, three hour class presented by the Red Cross. Save the evening of January 17, 2008 to participate in this local event.

OR

For those who are really serious about preparing themselves, get started before the New Year by enrolling in the CERT Training being offered on Saturday’s November 17<sup>th</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup>, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Classes will be held at the Holladay City Hall located at 4850 South 2300 East. Call Holladay City and sign up.

PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

for November, 2007

The following public works projects are scheduled for activity in November:

Continuation of water line installation on Creek Road, east of Highland Drive.

Water line enhancement on Bridgewater Drive and Stone Road



LEAF BAGS AVAILABLE

The Fall Leaf Bag Program started in mid-October and will continue until November 30. Free rolls of bags are available at Whitmore Library, Cottonwood Heights City Office (1265 E. Fort Union Blvd, Suite 250), and at Fire Stations 110 (Ft. Union Blvd) and 116 (Wasatch Blvd).

Bags filled with green waste can be dropped off at Bywater Park, 3300 East 7420 South (Banbury Rd.). Last pick-up will be November 30.

WHAT’S NEXT FOR POLICE SERVICES QUESTION?

The city council has now listened to two presentations about self-providing police services for Cottonwood Heights. On Tuesday, October 9th, Bonneville Research presented a “Feasibility Study of Self Providing Law Enforcement Services.” This study was done in response to a contract between the city and Bonneville Research to enable the council to determine whether self-providing was even a possibility from a financial standpoint.

The following week, on Tuesday, October 16, the Sheriff’s Department gave a presentation that

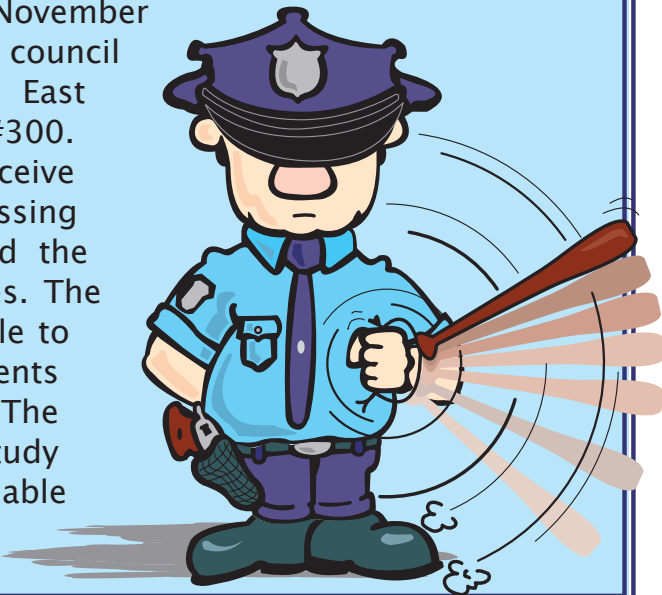
questioned the findings of the feasibility study and encouraged the city to continue contracting for police services under a more centralized county model. Prior to their presentation, the Sheriff’s Office distributed flyers throughout Cottonwood Heights that raised questions about self-providing.

In an effort to acquire all of the information possible and to answer the questions raised at the October 16th hearing, the council has now contracted with Bonneville Research to further their study and gather data from other cities in the county that

now self-provide. Data gathered will be used to determine the validity of the concerns listed by the Sheriff’s Office and those voiced by citizens at the hearings.

The findings of this further study will be considered in another open meeting to be held on November 27th in the city council chambers, 1265 East Fort Union, #300. Citizens will receive a mailing discussing this meeting and the questioned issues. The public will be able to submit comments until Dec. 10. The results of the study will also be available

on the city website, www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov, sometime after mid-November. The council plans to discuss the public input on this important issue at their regularly scheduled meeting on Dec. 11, 2007.

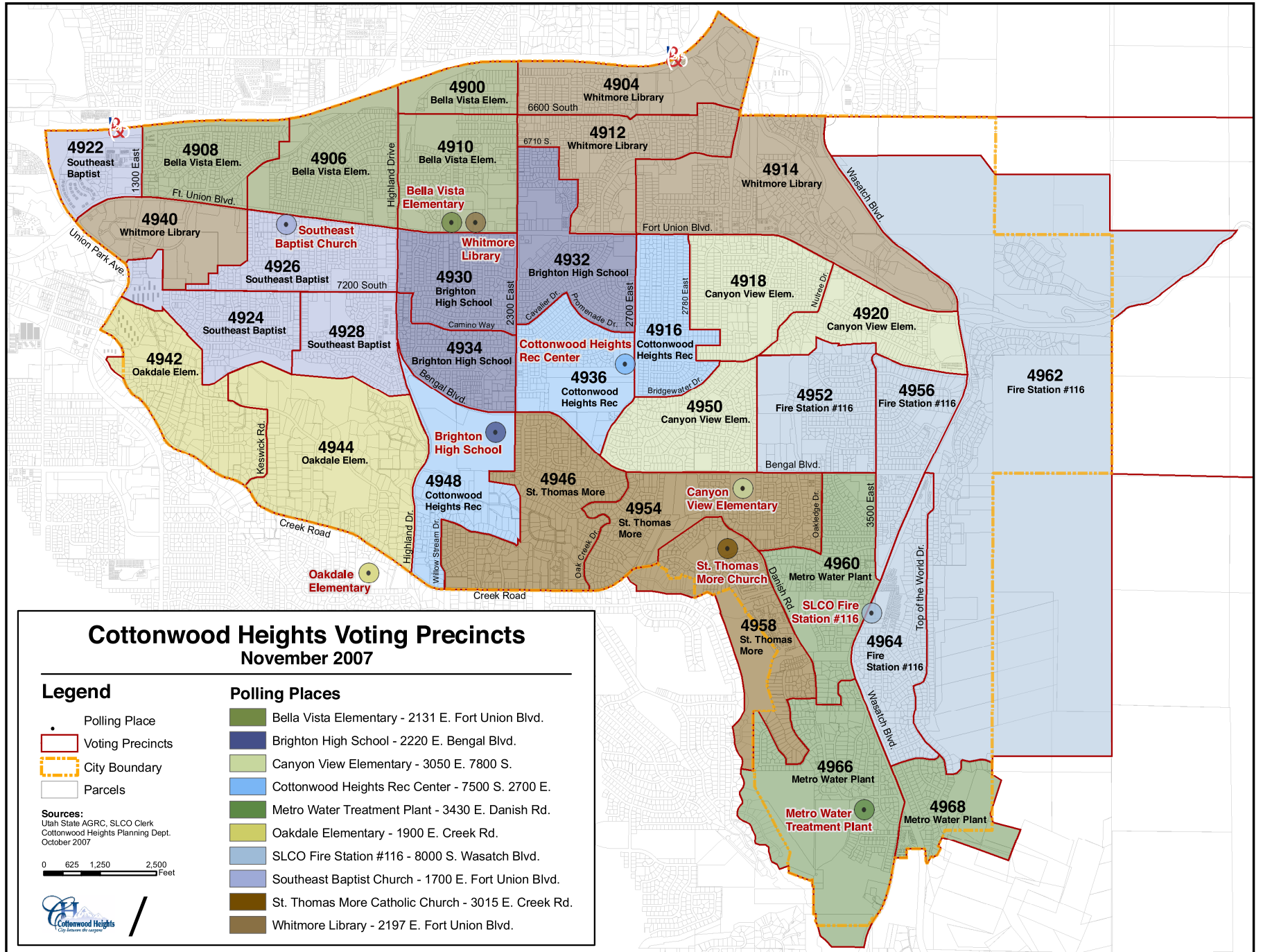




**NOVEMBER 2007**

## DOUBLE CHECK POLLING LOCATIONS

The county clerk has announced that in some instances the 2007 polling place location has changed. The accompanying map visually portrays, with color coding and addresses, where residents of each voting precinct should go on November 6 to cast their ballot regarding the school voucher and new school district questions. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Those desiring to vote early or absentee should contact the Elections Division at 468-3427 or [www.clerk.slco.org](http://www.clerk.slco.org).



## Be Sure to **VOTE** on Nov. 6

There has been a lot of publicity for the upcoming election as it relates to school vouchers and whether to create a new school district. We vote on both of those issues on Tuesday, Nov. 6 at the polling places indicated in the accompanying map. However, there are two other elections on that day that require you to go to other polling places to exercise your democratic right.

A trip to the Cottonwood Heights Recreation Center on Election Day will enable you to vote on one of the Trustee positions. Debbie Tyler, an incumbent member of the Board of Trustees, is running unopposed but a vote is required. Anyone who can make it by the Recreation Center to cast a ballot will be appreciated.

The Cottonwood Improvement District (Sewer Special Service District), is also having an election for Trustees. Residents of Cottonwood Heights can go to the Butler Elementary School and make a choice between: Rodney L. Dahl, Arlen F. Ekberg, and Mark Katter for a position of Trustee on the Cottonwood Improvement District Board of Trustees.

This year a little travel is required to fully exercise your voting franchise. Please take advantage of this hallowed opportunity to participate as a decision maker in the democratic process.